

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NEW DE 09634 071332Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSC-01 EB-07 TRSE-00 OMB-01 CIAE-00
DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /065 W
-----086414 071409Z /46

R 071300Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4556
INFO AMCONSUL BOMBAY
AMCONSUL CALCUTTA
AMCONSUL MADRAS

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PGOV, PINT, IN
SUBJECT: GEORGEN ERNANDES AND BRIJ LAL VERMA SWAP
PORTFOLIOS

1. PRIME MINISTER DESAI ON JULY 6 NAMED GEORGE FERNANDES AS MINISTER OF INDUSTRY, REPLACING BRIJ LAL VERMA. VERMA WAS SHIFTED TO FERNANDES FORMER POSITION OF MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS.
2. VERMA WAS INCLUDED IN THE CABINET AT THE LAST MINUTE IN LATE MARCH WHEN JANA SANGH LEADER NANAJI DESHMUKH DECLINED DESAI'S OFFER OF A PORTFOLIO. AT DESHMUKH'S SUGGESTION, DESAI ACCEPTED FELLOW JANA SANGH MEMBER VERMA AS HIS SUBSTITUTE, ALTHOUGH SOME OBSERVERS SAY THAT VERMA WAS THE ONLY MINISTER WHO WAS "IMPOSED" ON THE PM.
3. THERE HAVE BEEN RUMORS FOR SEVERAL WEEKS THAT DESAI WAS NOT SATISFIED WITH VERMA'S PERFORMANCE AND WAS THINKING OF SHIFTING OR EVEN DROPPING HIM. VERMA REPORTEDLY CAUSED A STIR IN CABINET AND RULING PART CIRCLES BY ISSUING SEVERAL

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PRONOUNCEMENTS ON INDUSTRIAL POLICY WHICH HAD NOT BEEN CLEARED BY THE FULL CABINET. ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS, JANATA LEADERS WERE COMPELLED TO DISOWN THESE STATEMENTS, CAUSING THE PARTY AND GOVERNMENT CONSIDERABLE EMBARRASSMENT. AS A JANA SANGH FIGURE, VERMA'S CONSERVATIVE APPROACH TO POLICY QUESTIONS IN THE IMPORTANT AND SENSITIVE INDUSTRIAL FIELD REPORTEDLY ANNOYED OTHER ELEMENTS IN THE PARTY AND MADE IT MORE DIFFICULT FOR

THE PM TO WORK TOWARD CONSENSUS POSITIONS. IN THE RELATIVELY
LESS IMPORTANT COMMUNICATIONS MINISTRY, VERMA WILL HAVE LESS
SCOPE TO INFLUENCE GOI POLICY.

4. FERNANDES' MOVE TO THE INDUSTRY MINISTRY IS SURE TO EN-
HANCE HIS PRESTIGE AND INFLUENCE IN THE CABINET. AS A
PROMINENT SOCIALIST, HIS APPOINTMENT WILL DOUBTLESSLY
CAUSE APPREHENSION IN THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY.
GOHEEN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CABINET, PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 07-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977NEWDE09634
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770241-0480
Format: TEL
From: NEW DELHI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770783/aaaactwm.tel
Line Count: 71
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: b65ca66f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
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Review Date: 01-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
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Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1937908
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GEORGEN ERNANDES AND BRIJ LAL VERMA SWAP PORTFOLIOS
TAGS: PGOV, PINT, IN, (FERNANDES, GEORGE)
To: STATE
Type: TE
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